

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



The Rock Hill church of Christ

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Frisco TX 75035

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Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

SPIRITUAL TIDBITS

CONSIDER ONE ANOTHER

Some people are slow to learn the lessons that God requires of us. The children of Israel after Mt. Sinai were quick to admit their sin and (sort of) repent. Nevertheless, when they came to the edge of the promised land, they believed the 10 spies with a bad report of Canaan, and God promised punishment for 40 years of wilderness wandering for their lack of faith. Still many, in (sort of) repentance, armed themselves against the Canaanites who were nearby and attacked against God's will. It was soon made obvious that their (sort of) repentance was not acceptable, for in ***Numbers 14:40-46***, they fought against the inhabitants and were soundly defeated.

A lesson for all men can be learned by this example of 'surface repentance'. They did not truly seek the Lord and thereby learn what God expected of them. Had they asked, Moses would have directed them as he did in the next chapter. It would require a sacrifice and a change of heart. We should also learn that God did not take away His earlier sentencing to the "whole of the congregation that are gathered together against me." They would all wander in the wilderness for the next 40 years and die in it...without receiving the promised. It would be their children who would.

Perhaps the greatest mistake to befall the 10 spies was in the influence they could have had on the congregation of Israel. As you recall, the spies were chosen of God in ***Numbers 13:3-15*** and were identified as "heads of the children of Israel." With the position they held within their respective tribes, they each could have had a positive influence on the congregation. The opposite actually occurred. This was a major failure of the leaders who were intended to encourage, but lead them in an opposing direction. As a result, the whole of the congregation suffered as a result.

The lesson for all who have witnessed this failure in their duties relates well to the promise of heaven under the new dispensation. As ***Hebrews 10:23-26*** informs us today of the idea of positive spiritual encouragement in worship service. The promise made to Abraham-Isaac-Jacob would have been applied to the congregation as a whole had it not been for the negligence of a few. The negative influence had a detrimental effect on the entire congregation. ***Hebrew 10:24-25*** conveys this intent of scripture in a most subtle way; "let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works."

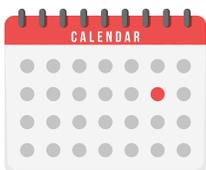
Doug Jones

Family News

“For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:18,19

If you are visiting our congregation, **welcome!** Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

N . E . W . S .



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

❖ **A LADIES' MEETING** — Judy would like to meet with the

ladies up front after worship services today to discuss a project.

❖ **THE LEADERSHIP MEETING** for the elders, deacons, and preacher will be today at 3:30 for the elders and 4 for everyone else.

❖ **BIRTHDAY CAKE** — The last Sunday of every month has a special fellowship after Sunday evening services to celebrate all the birthdays of the past month. This month includes Koreen Vaz, Stahr Terrazas, Sue Allen, and Ralph Kelly.

❖ **INDIA MISSION** — There will be a special collection for the India work on September 7. If you're interested in contributing this good work that Burley is involved with, don't miss this opportunity to participate with him in the winning of souls in India.

❖ **OUR NEXT FIRST SUNDAY SINGING PRACTICE** will be September 7. Come learn some new songs.

❖ **THERE WILL BE SEWING** on Sept 4th and 12th.

❖ **OUR NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be September 13 at 9AM. Come and

enjoy the food, the fellowship, and the encouragement.

❖ **LADIES CLASS** has resumed and is meeting regularly at 10AM. Come enjoy the coffee, the fellowship, and wonderful study of God's word among your sisters!

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE to your ordinary weekly support of Rock Hill's work, here are some other worthy projects you could support...

• **The White Rock Fund** — While the White Rock Fund could always use your contribution, there is a special reporting and fundraising event to be held at the Shawnee Trail church in Frisco on October 25. It's a great and encouraging event that comes with a free lunch.



Mission reports from all over the world!
Luncheon

• **CHANGE CANS** — Foster's Home for Children left a number "change cans" for any who want to make a contribution to this home and good work it does. They'll be collected very soon.

• **Hill Country Relief** — If you would like to contribute toward relief efforts for Kerrville and surrounding area, give your donations to Charles H. who will forward it to the Kerrville church of Christ

• **The Pittsfield MA church** — Those who wish to provide money to the Pittsfield MA church for

their monthly benevolence fund can see Trudy R. to contribute.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Burley's mission trip top India in Sept. (and Linda at home)
- Steve Silva Please pray for a quick recovery from eye surgery.
- Susie C. Please pray for a quick recovery from eye surgery.
- Ardith now in hospice.
- Esther Myrick, a very low blood count
- Reiven and Ora H — Pray for quick and complete recoveries
- Ken Conklin recovering for a heart oblation..
- Bonnie Davidson to have physical strength to attend services.
- The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, granddaughter Peyton living with them.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Aug 31, Ezekiel 17-19
- Sep 1, Ezekiel 20-22
- Sep 2, Ezekiel 23-26
- Sep 3, Ezekiel 27-28
- Sep 4, Ezekiel 29-31
- Sep 5, Ezekiel 32-33
- Sep 6, Ezekiel 34-36
- Sep 7, Ezekiel 37-38

A word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF AND PSYCHOLOGY

A guest editorial

We believe that the Lord's way is always best, but it is nice when secular studies recognize it, too.
Brotherly, Park

Many preachers enjoy an interest in psychology — not because they think that psychology trumps preaching or even scripture; but because psychological research might sometimes be useful in discussions, counseling, day-to-day living; and even a brief reference in a sermon or two.

ITEM 1. To begin with, I recommend the following online page: *40 Years of Research About Religious Involvement | Psychology Today United Kingdom*. The article should be of interest, especially the grid chart entitled "Positive Relationships of Religious Involvement with Mental, Social, and Behavioral Health." If you're pressed for time, here it is: →

Positive Relationships of Religious Involvement with Mental, Social, and Behavioral Health

Mental Health Variable	Strength of the Evidence-Base	# of Research Studies	% Positive Outcomes
Less Depression	Strong	444	61%
Less Suicide, More Negative Attitudes Toward Suicide	Strong	141	75%
Less Alcohol Use and Abuse	Strong	299	86%
Less Drug Use and Abuse	Strong	185	84%
Less Anxiety and PTSD	Moderate	147	49%
More Psychological Well-Being	Strong	326	79%
More Meaning and Purpose in Life	Moderate	45	93%
More Optimism	Moderate	32	81%
More Hope	Moderate	40	73%
More Forgiving	Moderate	40	85%
More Altruistic	Moderate	47	70%
More Gratitude	Moderate	5	100%
Social Health Variable			
More Social Support	Strong	74	82%
More Marital Health and Stability	Strong	79	86%
Behavioral Health Variable			
Less Cigarette Smoking	Strong	135	90%
More Exercise and Physical Activity	Strong	37	68%
Less Extra-marital Sex, Safer Sexual Practices	Strong	95	86%
Less Drinking when Driving	Moderate	5	83%
Healthier Diet	Moderate	17	71%
Less Pornography Use	Moderate	4	80%

ITEM 2. Faith of the Fatherless: The Psychology of Atheism by Paul Vitz, with a glance at The War Against Boys by Cristina Hoff Sommers.

I first learned of Paul Vitz back in the 1980s. At that time he was surveying the content of social studies textbooks used in the nation's schools. He was seeking to ascertain how religion was presented by textbook authors. His findings were less than sanguine.

Recently, however, Vitz has set his sights on atheism in an engaging book called Faith of the Fatherless: The Psychology of Atheism, and I recommend highly the Second Edition (2013): *Faith of the Fatherless: The Psychology of Atheism*: Vitz, Dr. Paul C.: 9781586176877: Amazon.com: Books

An online blurb: Disappointment in one's earthly father, whether through death, absence, or mistreatment, [can be a factor] in the rejection of God.

Vitz discusses some famous theists and their fathers, including Blaise Pascal, Moses Mendelssohn, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Edmund Burke. By contrast, Vitz also discusses such famous atheists as Sigmund

Freud, Thomas Hobbes, Josef Stalin, and Ayn Rand.

Vitz's book, only 198 pages in length, makes for engaging reading. Vitz's final sentence is deeply moving: "Certainly, for children to be forced to hate their own father, or to be brought to a state of despair because of their father's weakness, is a tragedy. All children want is to love their fathers and to have fathers that love them in return." Vitz is a humane man, and we should be thankful for this

important book!

But is the need for good fathers affected by sociological matters as well as psychological ones? Probably so. See Christina Hoff Sommers's book, "The War Against Boys," specifically the revised and updated edition (2015): Amazon.com: The War Against Boys: How Misguided Policies are Harming Our Young Men: 9781501125423: Sommers, Christina Hoff: Books

Rod Atkinson

FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00AM Bible classes ■ 10:00AM Worship ■ 6:00PM Worship ■ 7:00PM Birthday Cake Sunday 	Labor Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David & Lauri J. ❤️ Edna A. 🎂 Ty J. 🎂 ■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class 			

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of August 31AMPM.....Wed.
 Announcements Charles H..... Charles H
 Song Leading..... Scott W Doug J Jim B
 Opening Prayer Yaw F Burley S
 Communion Jim B Reiven H
 Closing Prayer Doug J Ralph K
 A/V Control..... John S Scott W Charles H
 Greeter..... Hugh R

Week of September 7AMPM.....Wed.
 Announcements Jim B Jim B
 Song Leading..... Doug J Scott W Reiven H
 Opening Prayer Tom R Charles H
 Communion Reiven H..... Marty K
 Closing Prayer Scott W Tom R
 A/V Control..... Charles H..... John S Scott W
 Greeter..... Burley S



Sermon Notes...
